



GAN 3711  
6/Election

P-5543 PATENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of R. Dennis Nesbitt et al.

Serial No.: 09/479,985 ✓

Examiner: S. Wong

Filing Date: January 10, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3711

For: GAME BALL WITH A URETHANE GUM RUBBER SURFACE

Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In the Office Action of March 9, 2001, the Examiner states that Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121. The Examiner states that Group I, Claims 1 to 16 and 22, are drawn to a game ball having a cover of vulcanized urethane rubber, and Group II, Claims 17 to 21, are drawn to a method of making a game ball. The Examiner further states that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different products such as a game ball having a solid core therein. The Examiner concludes that because the inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2001.

Laura J. Nolan  
Laura J. Nolan



09/479,985

P-5543

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute Group I, Claims 1 to 16 and 22, drawn to a game ball, with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of Group 1 may also be directed to a game ball having a solid core therein, and therefore, that all claims can be effectively searched at the same time.

Respectfully submitted,

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